



# St Thomas More Catholic School Parents' Newsletter

26 January 2018

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Monday, 29 January 2018

- Sixth Form Assembly - Access Aspirations (08:50-09:10)
- Year 8 Drama Trip to V&A Museum (13:30-17:30)

### Wednesday, 31 January 2018

- PruGoals Bike-Fitting at the VeloPark
- Year 10 Workshop with Cardinal Hume Centre (15:10-16:10)
- Youth Club (15:15-17:15)
- Careers' Event (16:15-17:15)

### Thursday, 1 February 2018

- A2 Media BFI Study Day
- Year 8 Retreat: 8BK2, 8MC2, 8DX2, 8KL2 and 8KL3
- AS and ALevel Drama Trip to Belleville at the Donmar (13:30-15:10)

### Friday, 2 February 2018

- Choir Practice (15:15-16:15)

As host, the school also had the pleasure of providing some of the fantastic entertainment for the night, including a guitar solo from Year 9 pupil Jayden Malinzi, and closing act provided by four amazing vocalists from our Year 7 group: Blessing Moke Musese, Rachel Manful, Nana-yaa Akoto, and Kimberly Mombley.

St Thomas More pupil, Souharda Chanda achieved many personal goals delivering his speech 'Unsocial Media', whilst Ayarna Witter-Morgan delivered her very personal speech 'Shapeless' which led her to win 2nd place on the night, making her runner up of the 2017-18 Haringey Regional Final.

Ayarna Witter-Morgan was delighted to have won an award on the evening, "By doing this challenge, I have learned to be more confident in myself and now I know that you should take every opportunity you're given!"

## INTRODUCTION

As parents will be aware, the school had four inspectors from the Diocese carrying out a Section 48 Inspection. Thank you for the tremendous response to the parental questionnaires that were sent as short notice, once the school had been informed of the inspection at the start of the week. The inspectors were certainly impressed with the large number of responses. As always, the pupils were excellent. As soon as the school has been notified of the final outcome of the inspection, we will make parents aware. We expect the report in about three weeks' time.

On Tuesday evening, we hosted Jack Petchey's "Speak Out" Challenge Haringey Regional Finals. The competition was extremely competitive with some excellent finalists. We were delighted that Ayarna Witter-Morgan was awarded second place - well done Ayarna!

## JACK PETCHEY'S "SPEAK OUT" CHALLENGE

On Tuesday, the school hosted the Haringey Regional Finals of Jack Petchey's "Speak Out" Challenge 2017-18. The challenge, which is run by Speakers Trust and funded by the Jack Petchey Foundation, focuses on developing pupils' skills and confidence to speak in public, as well as their desire to do so.

As the hosting school, St Thomas More was delighted to welcome the Mayor of Haringey, Councillor Stephen Mann, who led the presentation ceremony, as well as competing pupils from eleven neighbouring Haringey schools.

The evening was opened by Mr Tissot and MC for the night was the current Regional Champion 2017 and St Thomas More Student, Lin Ly.



Ayarna with the Mayor of Haringey,  
Councillor Stephen Mann



Souharda with the Mayor of Haringey,  
Councillor Stephen Mann



Year 7 Vocalists: Blessing Moke Musese, Rachel Manful, Nana-yaa Akoto, and Kimberly Mombley



Jayden Malinzi, Year 9

## SPORT

The Year 11 basketball team continue to display their strength and unity as they cruised to victory against Chace Community School. Courtney Mwangola scored the most points on the day as he continued to frustrate his opponents utilising his height. Joseph Bautista also scored a memorable shot from the halfway line at the end of the 4th quarter, which made the final score 54-29 to St Thomas More School.

The Year 7 boys' and girls' athletics teams have won the Indoor Haringey Athletics Championship. The boys beat all 12 schools in Haringey to progress into the London Youth Games and represent Haringey. David Mpunga and Ryan Frederik were particularly impressive, winning their races by a significant distance. The girls also tipped Alexandra Park School to represent Haringey in the London Youth Games.

## Thought for the Week

"You're going to go through tough times - that's life. But I say, 'Nothing happens to you, it happens for you.' See the positive in negative events. If you have a positive attitude and constantly strive to give your best effort, eventually you will overcome your immediate problems and find you are ready for greater challenges".

## REFLECTION FROM THE RE DEPARTMENT

### Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Gospel: (Mark 1:21-20)

Jesus entered the synagogue on the Sabbath and began to teach. The people were spellbound by his teaching because he taught with authority and not like the scribes. There appeared in the synagogue a man with an unclean spirit that shrieked: "What do you want of us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him sharply: "Be quiet! Come out of the man!" At that the unclean spirit convulsed the man violently and with a loud shriek came out of him. All who looked were amazed. They began to ask one another: "What does this mean? A completely new teaching in a spirit of authority! He gives orders to unclean spirits and they obey him!" From that point on his reputation spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

From that point on, they "remembered" and told the story and "his reputation spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee." "Remember" is a word that is often on our lips when we pray and when we speak to our friends. Sometimes we also feel better people when we remember the goodness of others to us, their generosity, their unselfishness, their tenderness, their thoughtfulness. This word "remember" is important, for Jesus has also done great things for us. (Living Liturgy, 2018, p.42)

#### Prayer

Christ healer of hearts, teach us compassion for others, Christ maker of peace, help us to bring peace to all people. Christ, the light of life, show us the path of life. Help us listen to the calling of your son to help those in need. We ask these prayers through Christ our Lord.

Amen

## Words of the Week

Monday: Uproarious (Adjective) – Characterised by or provoking loud noise or uproar; provoking loud laughter, very funny.

Tuesday: Fulsome (Adjective) – Complimentary or flattering to an excessive degree: or of large size or quantity; generous or abundant.

Wednesday: Coalesce (Verb) – Come together to form one mass or whole: combine elements in a mass or whole.

Thursday: Flounder (Verb) – To behave awkwardly; make mistakes; struggle or stagger clumsily in mud or water.

Friday: Morose (Adjective) – Ill-tempered; gloomy, sullen.